

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

Attached herewith are replacement sheets for Figure 2B and for Figure 3. In Figure 2B, the label "224" with respect to the ramp of the arm 230 has been relabeled --232--, consistent with Figure 2A. Figure 3 has been labeled "PRIOR ART".

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested. Claims 1, 6-8, 10-15; 20, 25, and 26 remain pending in the application. Claims 2-5, 9, 16-17 and 21-24 have been withdrawn following an Election/Restriction Requirement. However, reconsideration and allowance of claims 2-5, 9, 16-17 and 21-24, upon allowance of independent claims 1, 12 and 20, is respectfully requested, as indicated by the Examiner in paragraph 2 of the June 22, 2005 Office Action. Method claims 18-19 were canceled following their Restriction in the Office Action dated June 22, 2005.

In numbered paragraphs 2-5 on page 2 of the Office Action, minor objections were raised with respect to the drawings. By the attached replacement sheets submitted herewith, Figures 2B and 3 have been revised to address the Examiner's concerns such that withdrawal of these objections is respectfully requested.

In paragraph 6 on page 3 of the Office Action, a minor rejection is raised with respect to the specification. By the foregoing amendment, the Examiner's objection has been addressed by referring to both Figures 2B and Figure 2C (because the spherical member 242 appears in Figure 2C). As such, withdrawal of the objection is requested.

In numbered paragraphs 7-8, various claims are objected to under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. This rejection is respectfully traversed. The Examiner questioned whether an idler roller, such as idler roller 208 of Figure 2A, moves with the drive roller, such as the drive roller 210 of Figure 2A. The Examiner states that if the idler roller does not move with the drive roller, "the sheet would experience

sagging and/or deformation during translational motion of the drive roller due to the gap between the contact surfaces." (Office Action at page 3, para, 8).

As noted by the Examiner, the idler roller 208 of the exemplary Fig. 2A embodiment is mounted to oppose the drive roller 210 (specification page 8, para. [00026]), and a gap would occur between contact surfaces with sheet material S if the idler roller did not remain opposed to the drive roller 210 in Figure 2A. Paragraph [00028] on page 9 describes that the engage mechanism 224 of Figure 2A, in the state shown in Figure 2A, contacts the drive roller 210 to prevent rotation of drive roller 210 when sheet material S is translated. During translation of sheet material S, frictional contact between an arm 230 of the engagement mechanism 224 (see Figure 2A) prevents the drive roller 210 from rotating as the drive roller 210 and sheet material S are translated. Frictional contact between the drive roller 210 and the sheet material S causes translational motion of the sheet material S. The idler roller 208, which also frictionally contacts the sheet material S would necessarily also translate with the drive roller 210 and sheet material S, as acknowledged by the Examiner, or the sheet material S would not be translated. Because operation of the Figure 2A embodiment is adequately described in the specification, withdrawal of the objection under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, is requested.

In paragraphs 9-10 of the Office Action, claim 20 is objected to on the basis that the phrase "the drive roller" in line 9 lacks antecedent basis. By the foregoing amendment, the objection has been addressed by including a drive roller in the first subparagraph. Withdrawal of this rejection is therefore requested.

In addition, withdrawal of the objections in numbered paragraphs 11-12 is requested. To address the specific objections, amendments have been proposed to claims 8 and 20.

In numbered paragraph 14 of the Office Action, claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,586,479 (Roy et al). Applicant notes with appreciation the indication in numbered paragraphs 15-16 that all of the other pending claims considered in the Office Action have been indicated as containing allowable subject matter. The rejection of claim 20 is respectfully traversed.

Claim 20, like allowable independent claim 1, recites a drive system for advancing sheet material in a first direction by rotation of a drive roller. Such a feature encompasses the drive roller 210, which can advance a sheet material S (Figure 2A) by rotation of the drive roller 210. Claim 20 also recites, among other features, that the drive system is configured to translate the sheet material in a second direction by translation of the drive roller, in a manner similar to that recited in allowable claim 1. As already discussed, the Figure 2A embodiment is encompassed by claim 20, and includes drive roller 210 which can be translated in the X direction as shown, to translate the sheet material S.

Such features are neither taught nor suggested by the Roy et al patent. This is presumably acknowledged by the Examiner, based on the allowance of independent claims 1 and 12. As a result, claim 20 is also allowable.

The Roy patent is directed to a cutting apparatus for cutting an image from a receiving sheet. Figure 3 of the Roy patent illustrates a receiving sheet 75 which is transported in a Y direction using rollers 54 and 56. The receiving sheet is

transported in an X direction by rollers 66, 68 and 69. However, the Roy patent does not teach or suggest Applicant's invention as encompassed by claim 20. Claim 20 is directed to booklet making system comprising, among other features, a drive system for advancing sheet material in a first direction by rotation of a drive roller, wherein the drive system is configured to translate the sheet material in a second direction by translation of the drive roller. As such, claim 20, like claims 1 and 12, is allowable.

The remaining claims considered by the Examiner have already been indicated as allowable. However, upon allowance of independent claims 1, 12 and 20, it is requested that non-elected claims 2-5, 9, 16-17, 21-24 also be allowed.

All objections and rejections raised in the Office Action having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL PC

Date: December 6, 2005

By:



Patrick C. Keane
Registration No. 32,858

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404
(703) 836-6620

MARKED-UP DRAWINGS

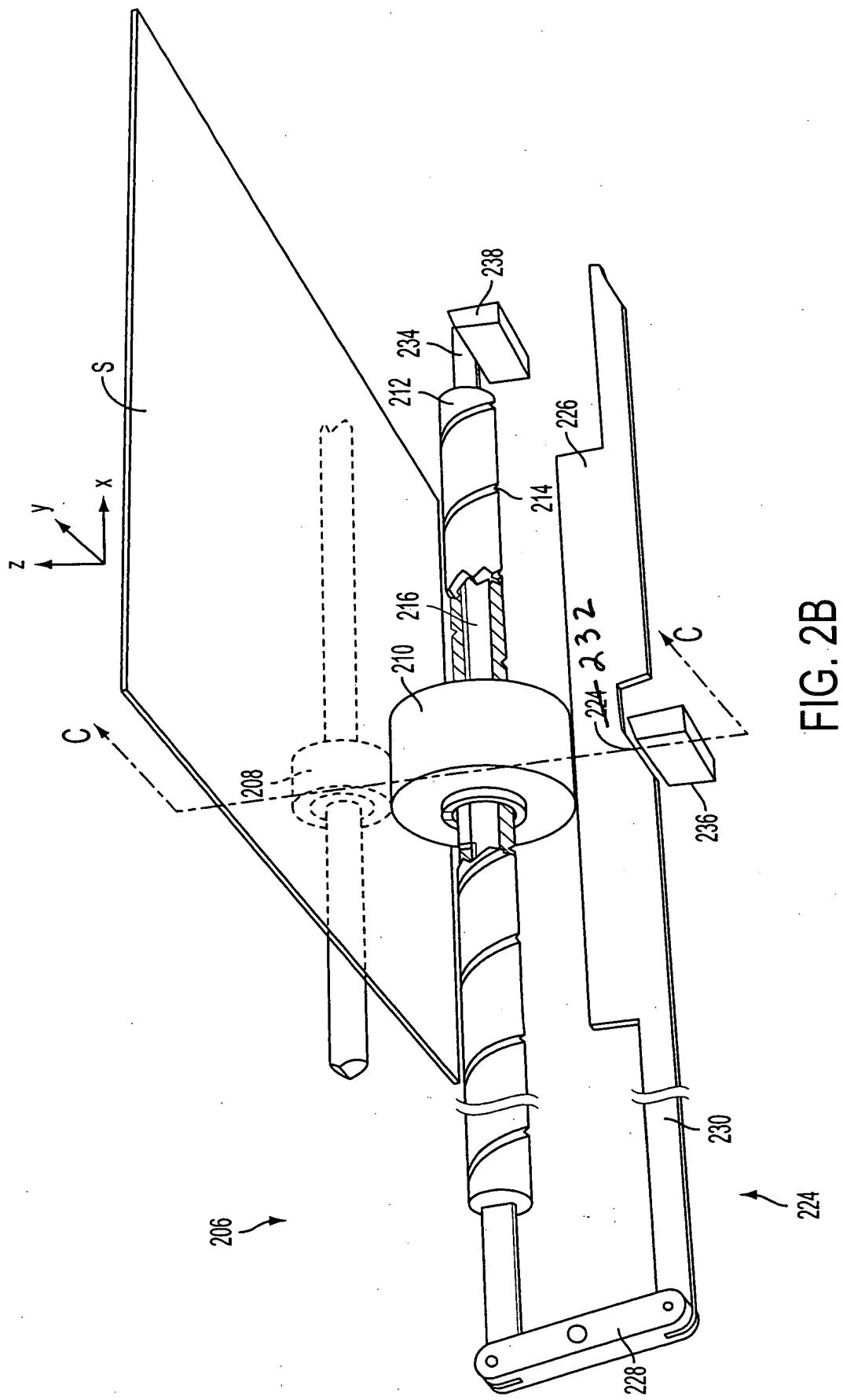


FIG. 2B

MARKED-UP DRAWINGS



PRIOR ART

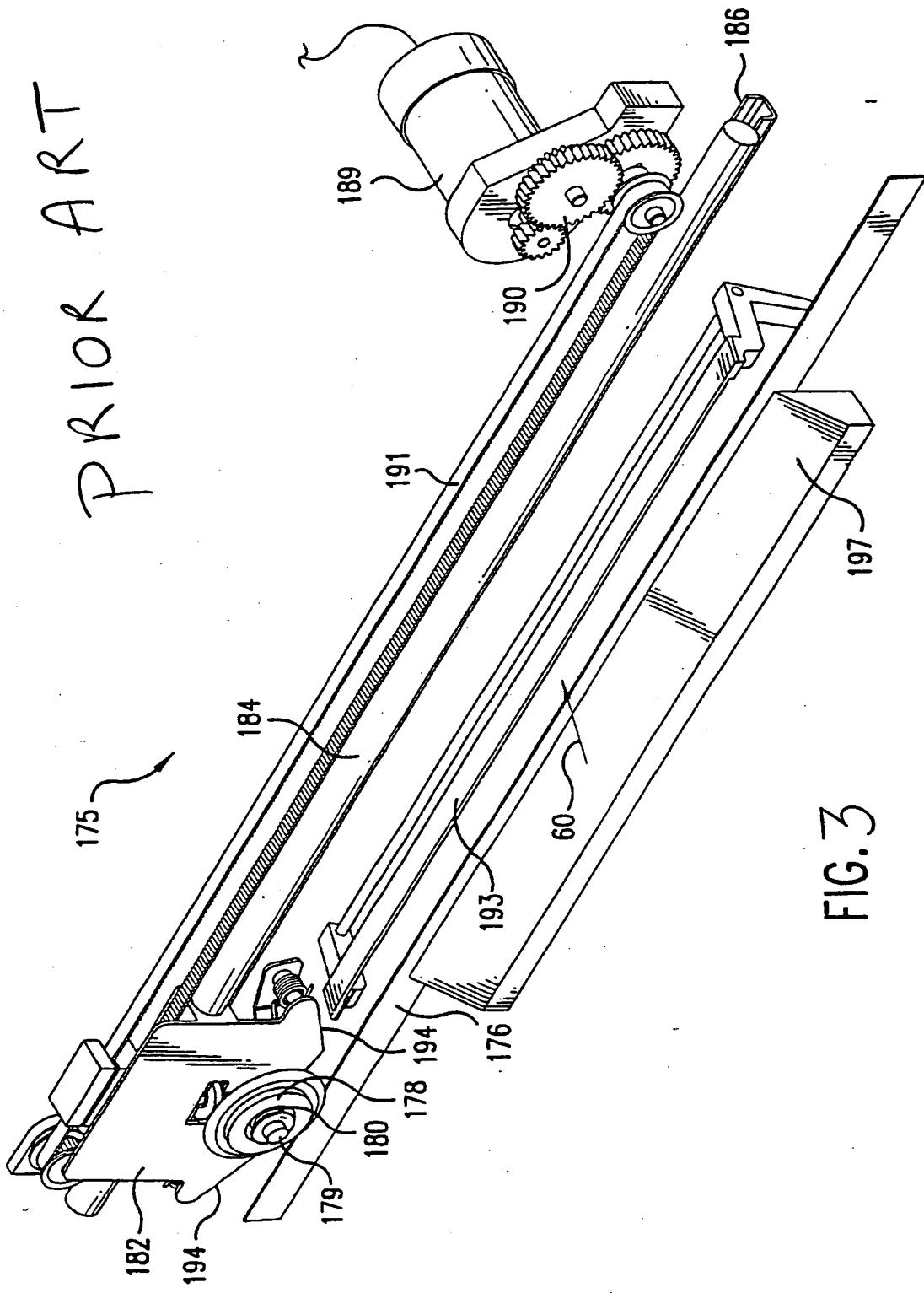


FIG. 3